Polluted Cities in the Country

1018. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) which are the first ten most polluted cities in the country ;

(b) which are the first ten most pollution free cities in the country; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to control pollution in these cities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) There is no universally accepted interse weightage for different pollution parameters so as to assign pollution ranking for various cities in the country. The Central Pollution Control Board is monitoring the ambient air quality in 290 locations situated in 92 cities of the country for air quality parameters such as Suspended Particulate Matter, Nitrogen Dioxide and Sulphur Dioxide. The names of the monitoring locations in the cities where the levels of each of these parameters is showing highest annual mean concentrations is given in the annexed statement I (*See* Below).

(b) As per the same survey the locations which are showing least pollution in terms of annual mean concentration of Suspended Particulate Matter in the ambient air is given in the enclosed statement-II (*See* below).

(c) The steps taken by the Government to control pollution in cities include the following :

(i) Standards for ambient air quality and emission standards for air polluting industries have been notified.

(ii) Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries.

(iii) Industries have been asked to comply with consent requirements of the State Pollution Control Boards.

(iv) Industries have been directed to install necessary pollution control equipment on a time-bound basis and legal action is taken against the defaulting units.

(v) For control of pollution from vehicles, emission norms for both petrol and diesel driven vehicles have been notified under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 and these are under implementation from 1990.

(vi) The Ministry of Surface Transport has advised the various State Transport Directorates to enforce these standards.

(vii) Public Awareness campaigns have been launched on various measures to prevent and control pollution from vehicles.

(viii) More stringent norms for vehicular emissions have been notified under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules in September, 1993 which would come into effect from April, 1996.

(ix) Automobile manufacturers have been asked to develop and improve their technology to meet the more stringent standards for emissions from vehicles.

(x) City planners are advised to incorporate in their plans the long-term requirements of city transportation.

Statement I

Annual mean concentration in microgramme per cubic meter for the Important Ambient Air Quality Parameters

Sl. No.	Location of Monitoring Station	Location of Monitoring Stations	Locaton of Monitoring Stations
Parameter Monitored :	Suspended Particulate Matter	Nitrogen Dioxide	Sulphur Dioxide
1	2	3	4
1	Raipur Road Dehra Dun (UP)	Rauno Ltd. Gajroula (UP)	Rauno Ltd. Gajroula (UP)
2	Clock Tower Dehra Dun (UP)	India Chowk Gajroula (UP)	India Chowk Gajroula (UP)

1	2	3	4
3	Shahazada Bagh Delhi (ND)	N.P. House Howarha (WB)	NP. House Howarha (WB)
4	Deputy Ka Parao Kanpur (UP)	Howarha M.C. Howarha (WB)	Cossipore Calcutta (WB)
5	Rauno Ltd. Gajroula(UP)	Anantpura Kota (Raj)	Howarha M.C. Howarha (WB)
6	Town Hall Delhi (NCT)	Beat All Sport Jalandhar (Pb)	Sector-9 Faridabad (Hr)
7	S.P. Eng. Works Kanpur (UP)	Bator Howarha (WB)	R.S.P. Jharia (Bihar)
8	Janakpuri Delhi (NCT)	Baudhaghar Howarha (WB)	Bank More Bihar
9	India Chowk Gajroula (UP)	SVR Engr. College Surat (Guj)	Cadilla Naval
10	Shahdara Delhi (NCT)	Air India Bldg Surat (Guj)	Regional Office Dhanbad (Bihar)

Statement II

Names of Observed to have Minimal annual mean suspended particulate matter

Concentration

Sl. No.	City/State	Annual mean concentration of Suspended Particulate Matter for the maximum data recorded (microgramme per cubic meter)
1	Cochin (Kerala)	21.0
2	Guwahati (Assam)	37.0
3	Madras (Tamil Nadu)	53.0
4	Vasco (Goa)	59.0
5	Trivandrum (Kerala)	72.0
6	Haldia (West Bengal)	80.0
7	Shimla (Himachal Pradesh)	88.0
8	Bhilai (Madhya Pradesh)	87.0
9	Daman, Dadar & Nagar Haveli	91.0
10	Pondicherry (UT)	94.0

Voluntary Environmental groups functioning in the Country

1019. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the voluntary environmental groups which are working in our country;

(b) what steps are being taken to encourage the activities of environmental groups ;

(c) whether it is a fact that some of the voluntary groups have complained of harassments at the hands of Government authorities ;

(d) whether Government are providing any financial or other assistance to such groups; and

(e) If so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.